

# Lamar University

## Department of Mathematics

MATH 3301-02 Ordinary Differential Equations  
Fall 2014 Syllabus  
MWF 10:20-11:15, Lucas 114, 3 credits

**Instructor:** Dr. Mohsen Maesumi  
**Office:** 206 Lucas  
**Phone:** 409-880-8766  
**Office Hours:** MWF 11:20-11:45, 12:20-12:40, TR 2:05-3:00  
Other times available by appointment.  
**Recommended Text:** Elementary Differential Equations (and Boundary Value Problems)  
by *W.E. Boyce & R.C. DiPrima*  
Publisher's study resources and companion sites available at (CTRL+Tap):  
<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-EHEP002452.html>  
<http://bcs.wiley.com/he-bcs/Books?action=index&itemId=0471433381&itemTypeId=BKS&bcsId=2021>

**Prerequisites:** Grade of C or better in Calculus II Math 2414 or its equivalent.

**Catalog Description:** First order equations: modeling and population dynamics, stability, existence and uniqueness theorem for nonlinear equations, Euler's method. Second order equations: nonlinear equations via reductions methods, variation of parameters, forced mechanical vibrations, resonance and beat. Laplace Transform: general forcing functions, the convolution integral. Systems of ODEs: eigenvalues and phase plane analysis. Prerequisites: Grade of C or better in MATH 2414 or its equivalent. Prepares for: MATH 4302, 4315 Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer

**Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe applications to sciences and engineering.
2. Sketch direction fields and interpret solution behavior for the sketch.
3. Solve first order differential equations and use them to model certain physical situations such as mixing problems, population dynamics, and falling bodies.
4. Solve homogeneous and nonhomogeneous second order differential equations and use them to investigate vibration problems.
5. Solve differential equations using Laplace transforms.
6. Solve systems of differential equations and sketch the phase portrait for the system.

**Lectures/Discussions:** We will have traditional lectures augmented by online resources as found in <http://www.math.lamar.edu/faculty/maesumi/mathexpo.pdf>. (This is best viewed on Internet Explorer or Adobe Reader.) The course topics, sections, and homework list are on the attached sheet.

**Core Curriculum Outcomes:** Upon completion of this course, the student will demonstrate his or her abilities to think critically, communicate quantitative information, and apply mathematical concepts:

1. **Critical Thinking:** Develop a logical, consistent plan to solve a problem, recognize consequences of the solution, and articulate a reason for choosing the solution method.
2. **Communication Skills:** Use and present quantitative information in connection with an argument or problem solution and explicate it in an effective format.
3. **Empirical and Quantitative:** Construct and present a detailed problem statement with evidence of relevant contextual factors and possible approaches for solving the problem, then implement a solution and review the results.

**Exams and Grading Policies:** This information is subject to change.

There will be four tests, each counting for 25% of the total.

Approximate dates: Sept 22, Oct 13, Nov 10, Final Dec 8, 11-12:30.

Bonus points will be allocated for the following:

Attendance. Participation in class. Completing the course evaluation.

Grading scale: A>90>B>80>C>70>D>60>F.

Handwriting, presentation, and precise mathematical exposition are expected on quizzes and exams.

Some of the basic points of writing mathematics are explained in a posted sheet.

In case you want your exam to be reviewed and re-graded you need to notify me within one week from the day grades are announced. Two weeks after the final your course grade data will be discarded, unless you make a written request in person.

**Final Exam:** Dec 8, 11-12:30.

**Curving the Grades:** Tests are open notebook. You are allowed to have one binder of handwritten notes (lecture and homework) on the tests. (Loose papers or printed papers are not allowed.)

For your notebook to be effective it needs to be searchable with page numbers, index, complete statement of problems and solutions, definitions, methods, and summaries. (Without having done the homework the notebook will not be of much help. So, please do not abuse this privilege!)

Exam questions are very similar to problems done in class, so attendance becomes very important.

Especially do not miss classes before tests (because we are reviewing) or after tests (because we are starting a new topic). Absence will lower your extra points. On exams you have ample time to double check your solutions. You will be required to check every step where a check is available. Your partial credit will depend on it.

**Corrections:** While I have made a sincere effort to ensure that this syllabus is correct, changes may be required. I will announce any substantive changes during a regularly scheduled class or by email.

**Contact Info:** Students are expected to have an *active* email with University. The email list will be made by the 12<sup>th</sup> class day from university database and you need to make sure your entry is correct. Each email must be signed by putting your full name and the course name. You may be contacted with some last minute course information by email. My preferred contact is through my email: [maesumi@gmail.com](mailto:maesumi@gmail.com). If you leave a phone message for me (8766) please duplicate it by email.

**Calculator:** You are allowed to have a *basic* scientific calculator. The basic ones cost about \$15 and do not have the following capabilities: graphing, matrix, computer algebra, wireless, or text storage. If you do not have a proper calculator you will take your test without one. Advanced calculators (e.g. TI80) or phone calculators or sharing calculators is not allowed.

**Absence:** If you are absent on any day you have to drop me a note explaining why. Make up for tests requires written proof of emergency within 2 business days. Unexcused absence may reduce your bonus grade.

**No:** Food, drinks, gum, ice, noise, tardiness, e-activity in class. Please put your phones and Ipods away.

**Test Code:** During tests you are to look at your own paper and protect your papers from others. No more than two students per table. Your face should be visible to the instructor. No obstruction by sunglasses, hair, hand, caps, etc.

### **Important Information for Students**

**Civility Policy:** Lamar University expressly prohibits intimidation and harassment of students, faculty, staff, or applicants. See <http://dept.lamar.edu/studentaffairs/handbook.htm> for more details.

**Drop Policy:** Please make note of the three dates indicated in this drop policy. Any drop will be your responsibility; I will not drop a student from the course.

**September 10, 2014:** (Census Date-Six Drop Rule does not apply) A student may drop or withdraw without consulting with the instructor. The Six Drop Rule does not apply to a drop before 5:00 PM.

**September 29, 2014:** (Six Drop Rule applies) A student may drop or withdraw from the course without academic penalty and receive a Q, however, the Six Drop Rule applies. The student will consult with the instructor and the Records Office to initiate a drop.

**November 3, 2014:** (Six Drop Rule applies) Last day to drop or withdraw with academic penalty; the student must be passing the course at the time of the requested drop in order to receive a Q. The drop form, including all required signatures, must arrive in the Records Office by no later than 4:00 PM. No drop is allowed after this date except in extreme extenuating circumstances. Any “late drop” must be approved by the instructor, department chair, college dean, and provost.

**Academic Integrity:** Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Students are specifically warned against all forms of cheating and plagiarism. The Lamar University Student Handbook clearly reads: “Any student found guilty of academic dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subjected to disciplinary action. Punishable offenses include, but are not limited to, cheating on an examination or academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of source materials.” One aspect of the Handbook’s definition of cheating includes “purchasing or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one’s own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm.” Plagiarism is defined as “the appropriation and the unacknowledged incorporation of another’s work or ideas into one’s own and submitted for credit.” Faculty members in the College of arts and Sciences investigate all cases of suspected plagiarism. Any student who is found cheating in this course will receive a course grade of F. See <http://dept.lamar.edu/studentaffairs/handbook.htm>.

**Course Evaluations:** You will have an opportunity to evaluate all aspects of this course in a formal process to be completed online near the end of the term. You will receive an email reminder through your LU account.

**Accommodations:** Lamar University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. The Disability Resource Center (DRC) is located in the Communications building room 105. Office staff collaborate with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange

reasonable accommodations. If you have, or think you may have, a disability (e.g., mental health, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical), please contact the DRC at [409-880-8347](tel:409-880-8347) or [drc@lamar.edu](mailto:drc@lamar.edu) to arrange a confidential appointment with the Director of the DRC to explore possible options regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations. If you are registered with DRC and have a current letter requesting reasonable accommodations, we encourage you to contact your instructor early in the semester to review how the accommodations will be applied in the course.

**Campus Closure:** In the event of an announced campus closure in excess of four days due to a hurricane or other disaster, students are expected to login to Lamar University's website's homepage ([www.lamar.edu](http://www.lamar.edu)) for instructions about continuing courses remotely.

**Emergency Procedures:** Many types of emergencies can occur on campus; instructions for severe weather or violence/active shooter, fire, or chemical release can be found at:

See <http://www.lamar.edu/about-lu/administration/risk-management/index.html>.

**Severe Weather:**

- Follow the directions of the instructor or emergency personnel.
- Seek shelter in an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor, putting as many walls as possible between you and the outside.
- If you are in a multi-story building, and you cannot get to the lowest floor, pick a hallway in the center of the building.
- Stay in the center of the room, away from exterior walls, windows, and doors.

**Violence/Active Shooter:**

CALL - 8-3-1-1 from a campus phone (880-8311 from a cell phone). Note: Calling 9-1-1 from either a campus phone or cell phone will contact Beaumont City Police Dispatch rather than University Police.

AVOID- If possible, self-evacuate to a safe area outside the building. Follow directions of police officers.

DENY- Barricade the door with desks, chairs, bookcases or any other items. Move to a place inside the room where you are not visible. Turn off the lights and remain quiet. Remain there until told by police it is safe.

DEFEND- Use chairs, desks, cell phones or whatever is immediately available to distract and/or defend yourself and others from attack.